



Department of Medical Assistance Services
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MEDICAID MEMO

TO: All Providers of Hospice Services Participating in the Virginia Medical Assistance Programs

FROM: Cynthia B. Jones, Director
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

MEMO: Special

DATE: 10/05/2015

SUBJECT: Medicaid Reimbursement Rate Changes for Hospice Services — Effective October 1, 2015

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that, effective October 1, 2015, the rates and wage regions for hospice providers will be changed. Several localities will change wage regions resulting in a change in reimbursement for hospice providers. The annual update of hospice rates will also occur on October 1.

Wage Region Changes

For the purposes of billing Medicaid for hospice services, the Commonwealth of Virginia is divided into twelve wage regions. Effective October 1, 2015, changes to the hospice wage regions will be implemented. The locality used for reimbursement is based on the address of the member receiving services. The services and rates affected by this policy change will be updated accordingly in the DMAS Provider Manuals located on the Virginia Medicaid Web Portal at www.virginiamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov.

This policy change follows the recent publication of revised Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and Core-Based Statistical Areas (CBSAs) by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in the February 2013 OMB Bulletin No. 13-01. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) adopted the new MSAs and CBSAs for hospice reimbursement purposes for federal fiscal year 2016. Federal regulations require the Department to use the Virginia wage regions defined and published by CMS for hospice reimbursement.

Listed below are the localities and their corresponding FIPS (Federal Information Processing Service) Codes that will change wage region, effective October 1, 2015:

Locality	FIPS	Old CBSA	Old Region Code	New CBSA	New Region Code
Augusta County	015	Rural	0009	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA	New-0013
Buckingham County	029	Rural	0009	Charlottesville, VA	0006
Culpeper County	047	Rural	0004	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	0004
Cumberland County	049	Rich-Petersburg	0007	Rural	0009
Danville City	590	Danville, VA	0005	Rural	0009
Floyd County	063	Rural	0009	Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA	0010

King And Queen County	097	Rich-Petersburg	0007	Rural	0009
Louisa County	109	Rich-Petersburg	0007	Rural	0009
Pittsylvania County	143	Danville, VA	0005	Rural	0009
Rappahannock County	157	Rural	0009	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	0004
Staunton City	790	Rural	0009	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA	New-0013
Surry County	800	Norfolk-VA Beach-Newport News, VA	0008	Rural	0009
Waynesboro City	820	Rural	0009	Staunton-Waynesboro, VA	New-0013

Rate Updates

Federal regulations require the payment of Medicaid hospice rates as published by CMS. The rates effective October 1, 2015 reflect the values mandated by CMS. The hospice rates are posted on the DMAS website under Provider Services, Rate Setting Information, Hospice Rates.

COMMONWEALTH COORDINATED CARE

Commonwealth Coordinated Care (CCC) is a new program that is coordinating care for thousands of Virginians who have both Medicare and Medicaid and meet certain eligibility requirements. Please visit the website at http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/altc-enrl.aspx to learn more.

MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

Many Medicaid recipients are enrolled with one of the Department's contracted Managed Care Organizations (MCO). In order to be reimbursed for services provided to an MCO enrolled individual, providers must follow their respective contract with the MCO. The MCO may utilize different prior authorization, billing, and reimbursement guidelines than those described for Medicaid fee-for-service individuals. For more information, please contact the MCO directly. Additional information about the Medicaid MCO program can be found at http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/mc-home.aspx.

VIRGINIA MEDICAID WEB PORTAL

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option to access information regarding Medicaid or FAMIS member eligibility, claims status, payment status, service limits, service authorizations, and electronic copies of remittance advices. Providers must register through the Virginia Medicaid Web Portal in order to access this information. The Virginia Medicaid Web Portal can be accessed by going to: www.virginiamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov. If you have any questions regarding the Virginia Medicaid Web Portal, please contact the Xerox State Healthcare Web Portal Support Helpdesk, toll free, at 1-866-352-0496 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays. The MediCall audio response system provides similar information and can be accessed by calling 1-800-884-9730 or 1-800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider. Providers may also access service authorization information including status via KEPRO's Provider Portal at <http://dmas.kepro.com>.

"HELPLINE"

The "HELPLINE" is available to answer questions Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except on holidays. The "HELPLINE" numbers are:

1-804-786-6273 Richmond area and out-of-state long distance
1-800-552-8627 All other areas (in-state, toll-free long distance)

Please remember that the "HELPLINE" is for provider use only. Please have your Medicaid Provider Identification Number available when you call.